

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 19, 2016. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, and John Stauter. Absent: Aldermen Bob Conklin and Chris Wilen.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Public Works Bard Schrader, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Manuel Garcia lives on Broadway and was representing neighbors. A few years ago, shrubs were removed in the center of Broadway. Garcia was told they were being replaced with new shrubs through a grant. Garcia expressed doubt where the grant money went. He believes the grant money ended up in the General Fund and no shrubs will be planted. Manager Shumard was unsure what happened but would look into it and get back to Garcia.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2016
- B) Approval of Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$961,228.49
- C) Newman Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 7, 2016 at 2:00 pm
- D) Partial Pay Request #6 for Sixth Avenue and Eighth Avenue to Twin City Construction in the amount of \$7,339.95
- E) Resolution #R2016-09-20 to Close Streets for Downtown Christmas Walk and Tree Lighting on Friday November 18, 2016**
- F) Resolution #R2016-09-21 to Close Streets for Twin Cities Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 19, 2016**
- G) PADS Homeless Shelter to hold a bucket brigade on October 1, 2016

The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring Sterling as a Peace City as of September 19, 2016; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Fred Turk, member of the Sauk Valley Interfaith Peace Action, stated that we need to promote peace around us on a daily basis. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Mayor Lee introduced Deb Dillow. Manager Shumard stated that Deb Dillow had been at Sauk for over 20 years. She had several referrals at the City. She is keeping the Mayor and Manager on task. She will be working part-time.

Chief Morgan presented the Officer of the Year Award to Kyle Wyckstandt. Morgan stated that he was nominated by Sgt. Sarah Schmidt. Wyckstandt was employed by the City on June 24, 2015. It unusual for someone to be recognized this early in a career. Alderman Martin stated that is an Optimist member and he heard the letter for the nomination that stated Wyckstandt is a team player and has accepted overtime willingly.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2016-9-20 Amending the Liquor Control Code, to Modify the Eligibility Application and Fee Requirements Applicable to Special Event and Special Use Liquor License by Amending Chapter 6, Article II, Section 40**; seconded by Alderman Elston. Mayor Lee stated that the Liquor Commission needs to review the code periodically to keep it updated and assure safety, a family atmosphere, and consistency with other communities. Alderman Stauter asked how many Special Event Licenses can be obtained in one year. Mayor Lee answered that the State limits two per year. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Schuchard made a motion to award the low bid for ADA sidewalks at First Avenue/East Third Street, First Avenue/East Fourth Street, and East Sixth Street/Locust to Civil Constructors in the amount of \$213,424.90; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Manager Shumard announced that there are still several downtown intersections to be replaced. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried

Alderman Elston made a motion to award the low bid for the 2016 Street Projects, Contract #1 (Avenue J between Seventh and Ninth Streets and Eighth Street between Avenues J and K) to Civil Constructors in the amount of \$57,676.25; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Clerk Rombouts announced that petitions can be circulated for Alderman-at-Large. The filing period is in November with the election in April.

Chief Morgan announced that Police Officer Travis Nease had joined the Sterling Force. Two more officers are being looked at from other communities which would eliminate state training.

Manager Shumard announced that a Dispatch Director position has been advertised in the paper, as well as a Public Works position and an IT Director. Tom Bittner has retired from Public Works and Sgt. Ken Wright is retiring in December. Shumard urged everyone to complete the survey on the Grandon Civic Center. He also reported pension outlook is a tax levy increase of 6½ to 7%.

Alderman Stauter thanked Chief Morgan for the solicitor stickers.

Alderman Schuchard asked if anyone has looked into an app for cell phones to keep the public informed. Chief Morgan stated he would be attending the Chief's conference and would see if there were any affordable apps.

Mayor Lee stated that he would be going to Illinois Municipal League (IML) this week and would see if any apps are available. Chief thanked Chief Morgan and all the volunteers that made the Fiesta weekend and Taste of Fiesta possible.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk